

## A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the citizens of Waggaman, in the Fifth Ward of the Parish of Jefferson, have complained to this Jury that a proposal is under way whereby a colony of Japanese is about to be located in said section, and, according to these citizens, an attempt is being made to locate another colony of Japanese in the adjoining Parish of St. Charles, and

WHEREAS, we are not unmindful of the treachery of the Japanese in connection with the present war between Japan and this country, that we are also aware of the barbarism, brutality and bestiality inflicted upon the boys of our Armed forces and innocent civilians, especially Americans, wherever they may be, and

WHEREAS, the highest officials of both the Army and Navy have referred to the Japanese people as abnormal and without honor and untrustworthy in every respect, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of the Parish of Jefferson that we agree with the attitude of the people of the Fifth Ward of this parish and we oppose the location of a colony of Japanese farmers, or any other type of Japanese, whether they be native-born, naturalized or aliens for the reason that the location of such a colony will only engender bitter feelings and be a source of never-ending trouble between our people and such Japanese.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is a matter of public knowledge that the Japanese can live on one fish and a hand ful of rice; that they farm from daylight until midnight; that the American way of living is absolutely foreign to them, just as their method of living is foreign to us; that our farmers cannot hope to compete with the slavery of the Japanese and labor of a similar type in raising crops and marketing them.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the renting or selling of any land in this parish to any Japanese, no matter whether native-born or naturalized, would be a serious economic blow to farmers and the people of this parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we request the Governor of this State and United States Senators and Congressmen and all of the officers of this parish to use their best endeavors to oppose the location of any Japanese colony, of any style, within the borders of the parish of Jefferson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor, our two United States Senators and to all of the Congressmen from the State of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that real estate dealers in this territory and the Real Estate Exchange of New Orleans be notified of the attitude of the people of this parish and request their co-operation, and to further ask that they refuse to use their offices of their organizations to further the purchase or lease of real estate to locate Japanese in this parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we request the United States Government and all of its agencies to refrain from making loans or providing funds for a program looking to the colonization of Japanese in this parish or in the State of Louisiana, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the United States Senators from this State, all Congressmen from Louisiana, to the Governor and all State Senators and Representatives, and to all Police Juries in the State of Louisiana, and to request their full cooperation in joining with us in preventing the location or colonization of Japanese in the State of Louisiana.

This resolution was approved by the Red River Parish Police Jury at a meeting of that body held on the 14th day of March 1945, and also opposed the locating of any Japanese in the State of Louisiana.

/s/ R. L. Corley, Sr., Secretary-  
Treasurer, Red River Parish  
Police Jury.

Coushatta, Louisiana  
March 14, 1945.

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Item 5  
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CG 014.311  
(31 Mar 45)

EAR:cbh

25, D. C. 3 April 1945

Resolution opposes the location of a colony of Japanese farmers, or any other type of Japanese, in the State of Louisiana.

Director, War Relocation Authority

Washington, D. C.

Inclosures

Ltr. fm Rep. Brooks, 31 Mar 45

Resolution

Cy. WD reply to Rep. Brooks, 3 Apr 45



*JRH*

Honorable Overton Brooks  
Congressman from Louisiana  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

APR 9 1945

Dear Mr. Brooks:

I have your letter of March 31st, referred to me by the Adjutant General's Office, War Department, making inquiry regarding the relocation of persons of Japanese ancestry in Louisiana with the attached copy of a resolution received from the Police Jury of the Red River Parish opposing any "colonization" of Japanese in the State of Louisiana.

We have been advised by our Relocation Officers in New Orleans of recent meetings with representatives of St. Charles and Jefferson Parishes in which the War Relocation Authority program to assist evacuees to leave the relocation centers was explained. As the resolution indicates, this protest originated in these two parishes. To our knowledge, no relocation in the Red River Parish has been contemplated.

It was made clear at these meetings that we are not attempting any large scale colonization in Louisiana or elsewhere, but rather are urging the evacuees to settle on an individual family group basis.

We have also suggested to our Officers there that any evacuees interested in coming to these Parishes meet some of the community leaders in order that they may become acquainted and a full understanding reached before they move in. I hope you understand that this is not compulsory as far as the evacuees are concerned because they are free to move of their own volition as are other citizens and law-abiding aliens. If some should choose to settle in these Parishes without first consulting the War Relocation Authority or the Parish leaders, they should be able to do so without trouble.

However, as the resolution from the Red River Parish Police Jury makes clear, there is a definite misunderstanding and misconception of the status of these people. We have found that in such instances most of the difficulties can be cleared away if we can get the people concerned on both sides to sit down and talk. For example, the resolution makes it very clear that its sponsors are not distinguishing between the enemy and our own citizens. This in effect admits that the melting pot tradition which is a bulwark of American democracy is a failure. I do not believe that the people of Louisiana are willing to admit any such breakdown.

*Incl 1*

AGOB-C 014,111  
(31 Mar 45)

3 April 1945

*ea*

Honorable Overton Brooks  
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Brooks:

This is in reply to your letter of 31 March 1945, with which you inclosed a copy of a resolution adopted by the Red River Parish Police Jury which opposes the location of a colony of Japanese farmers, or any other type of Japanese, in the State of Louisiana.

Since this is a matter within the jurisdiction of the War Relocation Authority, I have taken the liberty of referring your letter and its inclosure to the Director of that agency for consideration. I am sure you will receive a further reply from that official at the earliest practicable date.

Sincerely yours,

**J. A. ULIO**

J. A. ULIO  
Major General  
The Adjutant General

Legislative & Liaison Division, WDRS  
COPY FOR: Director, War Relocation Authority.

Operations Branch, AGO *WPH* Ext. 2053

*Concurrence*  
Chief Clerk's Office  
War Relocation Authority  
*JMA*



*WPH*  
*Dev*



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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
WASHINGTON

813



(19) 08 014.311

APR 9 1945

Major General James A. Ulio  
The Adjutant General  
War Department  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Ulio:

Thank you for referring to me the letter, dated April 3, from Honorable Overton Brooks, Congressman from Louisiana, regarding a resolution adopted by the Red River Parish Police Jury which opposes the location of a colony of Japanese farmers, or any other type of Japanese, in the State of Louisiana.

For your information, we are enclosing a copy of our reply.

Sincerely,

*D.S. Meyer*

Director

✓  
Enclosure

(9 Apr 45)

*File in Central File  
Root - 1E-863  
13 Apr 45  
Maj. H. H. ...*